USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 11

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

THIS REPORT IS THE FIRST CROP AND WEATHER REPORT FOR THE 2010 GROWING SEASON. A SERIES OF WEEKLY CROP PROGRESS REPORTS WILL BE PUBLISHED EACH MONDAY AT 4:00 P.M. EDT THROUGHOUT THE CROP SEASON. These reports will cover planting and harvesting activities, crop development, weather data, and timely crop management information provided by farmers, FSA, and Purdue University experts. For the earliest possible access, look for these reports on the internet shortly after the 4:00 P.M. release time. Our home page address is located at the bottom of this publication. Follow the links to view the text and pdf files.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.3 **days suitable for field work**. Sunny, windy days allowed soils to dry out late in the week giving farmers an opportunity to complete a considerable amount of tillage work over the weekend. One percent of the intended **corn** acreage is reported as **planted** which is on pace with the 5-year average.

Eight percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 17 percent for the 5-year average. **Winter wheat condition** is rated 68 percent good to excellent compared with 76 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week included: preparing planting and tillage equipment, spreading fertilizer, applying anhydrous ammonia, hauling grain to market, repairing and installing drainage tile and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Livestock are reported to be in mostly good condition. Pastures are improving with the recent rainfall and warmer temperatures. Hay supplies are rated 8 percent short, 85 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Year Avg. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | | |
| Corn Planted | 1 | NA | 0 | 1 |
| Winter Wheat Jointed | 8 | NA | 9 | 17 |

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excel-lent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Pasture | 1 | 5 | 25 | 55 | 14 |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 3 | 29 | 55 | 13 |

### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

| Soil Moisture | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | |
| **Topsoil** | | | |
| Very Short | 0 | NA | 1 |
| Short | 2 | NA | 1 |
| Adequate | 66 | NA | 41 |
| Surplus | 32 | NA | 57 |
| **Subsoil** | | | |
| Very Short | 0 | NA | 2 |
| Short | 3 | NA | 3 |
| Adequate | 72 | NA | 63 |
| Surplus | 25 | NA | 32 |
| **Days Suitable** | 3.3 | NA | 1.2 |

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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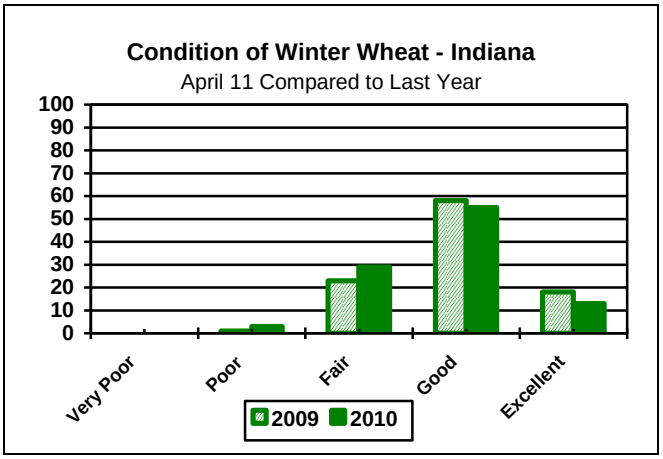
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/




## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### Farmers should initiate weed control to oppose glyphosate-resistant weeds

As spring progresses, farmers and other agriculturalists will be seeing more weeds growing throughout their fields.

"Farmers should start thinking about a plan for their herbicide choices to help control the weed problems that they might have," said Bill Johnson, Purdue Extension weed specialist.

Johnson explains that Indiana has four common glyphosate-resistant weed problems: Marestail is already in many no-till fields that will be planted in soybeans because it can behave as a winter annual or a summer annual. Giant ragweed, common ragweed and common waterhemp are summer annuals and will start emerging as soon as extended periods of warm daytime air temperatures occur.

Although marestail is found throughout Indiana, in southern parts of the weed will usually emerge as early as mid March and continue to emerge through the spring and early summer. Glyphosate-resistant marestail is becoming a bigger problem in northern parts of the state, and growers should plan their weed management programs to combat it.

Johnson said applying burn down herbicides with residual activity to fields will help control marestail and other weeds.

"I suggest farmers apply a pint of 2, 4-D with their burn down program because it is a very inexpensive herbicide," he said. "The downfall to using 2, 4-D is that farmers must wait seven days to plant after it has been applied."

Another option Johnson suggests is a herbicide containing saflufenacil, which can be applied in place of 2, 4-D for marestail control. The herbicide is a little more expensive, but there is no delay in planting.

Johnson advises farmers to control other early emerging weeds before they plant by using a residual herbicide with the burn down program and timely post-emergence spraying after planting, if needed.

Selecting which seed to plant also is a crucial part in weed control and herbicide application.

"Although farmers should spray their burn down program before they plant, it is crucial they know what seed they will be planting," Johnson said. "The herbicide-resistance trait a seed carries will determine what herbicide can be applied to that field."

Johnson suggests that farmers have a weed control strategy in mind as spring approaches.

"Farmers should know what their worst weed problem is and have more than one herbicide mode of action for it," he said.

For more information visit the Purdue and Ohio State Weed Guide Web site at http://www.btny.purdue.edu/Pubs/WS/WS-16/WS-16.pdf, or contact Johnson at 765-494-4656 or wgj@purdue.edu

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**(Additional Article on Back Page)**

# Weather Information Table

## Week Ending Sunday April 12, 2010

| Station | Past Week Weather Summary Data | | | | | | | Accumulation | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | April 1, 2010 thru April 11, 2010 | | | | |
| | Air Temperature | | | | Precip. | | Avg 4in Soil | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50°F | |
| | Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | Total | Days | Temp | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN |
| **Northwest (1)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chalmers_5W | 80 | 30 | 55 | +7 | 0.69 | 4 | | 1.67 | +0.41 | 5 | 93 | +68 |
| Francesville | 80 | 30 | 54 | +8 | 1.07 | 4 | | 1.35 | +0.05 | 5 | 91 | +76 |
| Valparaiso_AP_I | 80 | 29 | 53 | +7 | 1.57 | 4 | | 1.87 | +0.47 | 5 | 101 | +87 |
| Wanatah | 80 | 30 | 52 | +7 | 1.25 | 4 | 54 | 1.54 | +0.18 | 5 | 79 | +68 |
| Winamac | 80 | 32 | 55 | +9 | 1.06 | 4 | 53 | 1.27 | -0.03 | 5 | 98 | +83 |
| **North Central (2)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plymouth | 79 | 31 | 54 | +7 | 1.02 | 3 | | 1.24 | -0.14 | 4 | 91 | +74 |
| South_Bend | 78 | 29 | 54 | +8 | 0.76 | 4 | | 1.15 | -0.27 | 5 | 103 | +92 |
| Young_America | 82 | 31 | 57 | +11 | 0.74 | 1 | | 1.04 | -0.17 | 2 | 108 | +94 |
| **Northeast (3)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fort_Wayne | 84 | 33 | 58 | +12 | 1.33 | 2 | | 1.45 | +0.24 | 3 | 125 | +113 |
| Kendallville | 79 | 32 | 53 | +8 | 0.61 | 3 | | 0.68 | -0.44 | 4 | 88 | +75 |
| **West Central (4)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greencastle | 81 | 31 | 56 | +7 | 0.84 | 3 | | 1.14 | -0.18 | 4 | 105 | +77 |
| Perrysville | 82 | 30 | 58 | +10 | 0.53 | 3 | 53 | 0.99 | -0.41 | 5 | 112 | +91 |
| Spencer_Ag | 82 | 32 | 58 | +10 | 1.34 | 3 | | 1.73 | +0.29 | 4 | 112 | +88 |
| Terre_Haute_AFB | 82 | 33 | 59 | +10 | 2.55 | 3 | | 2.94 | +1.58 | 4 | 132 | +103 |
| W_Lafayette_6NW | 83 | 30 | 57 | +11 | 0.30 | 2 | 59 | 0.62 | -0.66 | 3 | 109 | +94 |
| **Central (5)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eagle_Creek_AP | 83 | 35 | 60 | +11 | 1.39 | 4 | | 1.63 | +0.28 | 5 | 138 | +112 |
| Greenfield | 85 | 33 | 57 | +9 | 1.55 | 3 | | 1.69 | +0.27 | 4 | 113 | +95 |
| Indianapolis_AP | 83 | 34 | 61 | +11 | 1.66 | 3 | | 1.82 | +0.47 | 4 | 147 | +121 |
| Indianapolis_SE | 84 | 33 | 58 | +9 | 1.24 | 3 | | 1.35 | +0.04 | 4 | 117 | +94 |
| Tipton_Ag | 82 | 33 | 56 | +11 | 0.62 | 3 | 57 | 0.81 | -0.59 | 4 | 101 | +90 |
| **East Central (6)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farmland | 84 | 30 | 57 | +11 | 0.94 | 3 | 55 | 1.02 | -0.27 | 4 | 109 | +98 |
| New_Castle | 82 | 30 | 56 | +11 | 1.79 | 3 | | 1.87 | +0.45 | 4 | 105 | +94 |
| **Southwest (7)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Evansville | 83 | 36 | 62 | +9 | 0.86 | 1 | | 1.22 | -0.26 | 3 | 146 | +92 |
| Freelandville | 82 | 37 | 60 | +9 | 0.64 | 1 | | 0.97 | -0.40 | 2 | 128 | +92 |
| Shoals_8S | 83 | 32 | 58 | +8 | 1.09 | 1 | | 1.40 | -0.10 | 2 | 113 | +78 |
| Stendal | 84 | 40 | 63 | +11 | 0.84 | 3 | | 1.45 | -0.19 | 4 | 155 | +112 |
| Vincennes_5NE | 82 | 34 | 61 | +10 | 0.76 | 2 | 63 | 1.08 | -0.29 | 4 | 135 | +99 |
| **South Central (8)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leavenworth | 84 | 37 | 60 | +9 | 1.51 | 1 | | 1.76 | +0.03 | 3 | 130 | +93 |
| Oolitic | 82 | 33 | 57 | +8 | 1.82 | 2 | 54 | 1.99 | +0.53 | 3 | 110 | +82 |
| Tell_City | 84 | 37 | 61 | +9 | 1.76 | 1 | | 2.00 | +0.23 | 2 | 145 | +97 |
| **Southeast (9)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brookville | 85 | 31 | 57 | +10 | 1.69 | 2 | | 1.69 | +0.31 | 2 | 104 | +86 |
| Greensburg | 86 | 35 | 59 | +10 | 1.49 | 2 | | 1.56 | +0.11 | 3 | 136 | +112 |
| Seymour | 85 | 33 | 58 | +8 | 1.43 | 2 | | 1.54 | +0.11 | 3 | 111 | +83 |



DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com
or call 1-888-798-9955.

# Safety First! Tips for Safely Handling Moldy Corn

Many grain bins across Indiana are filled with corn that has some level of damage due to preharvest fungal ear rots. Grain harvested from fields that were affected by Gibberella ear rot may also be contaminated with mycotoxins. Producers are primarily concerned with how to market and store this damaged grain, but there are also concerns about the potential human health hazards that may result from handling this grain.

Breathing grain dust is never healthy, and grain handlers should always wear protective masks when they work in grain bins, and when conducting operations that generate dust. Grain damaged by ear rots will have higher levels of dust and fines present, compared to good quality grain. Fungal spores produced by the ear rot fungi will also be in the grain dust. Fortunately, the fungus that causes Gibberella ear rot does not produce a lot of spores. However, there will certainly be spores of other molds in the grain dust. These spores can lead to allergic reactions, which may include flu-like symptoms, if workers do not take precautionary measures to protect themselves from exposure.

The mycotoxins vomitoxin (DON) and zearalenone, may be present in grain affected by Gibberella ear rot. These mycotoxins are not volatile molecules, so contaminated grain will not emit a toxic gas. However, the toxins will be in the small particles of corn dust and fines associated with the contaminated grain. If grain handlers are not wearing protective masks when working with this grain, they can breathe this contaminated dust into their lungs, and toxic effects may result from this exposure. Even if mycotoxins are not present in the grain dust, extensive exposure to dust may lead to eventual illness.

Simple safety procedures can be implemented to minimize exposure to grain dust and mold spores. When working with moldy grain, wear appropriate clothing such as long sleeves, pants, and gloves. A dust mask or respirator should also be worn to minimize inhalation risks. People who have a compromised immune system or respiratory ailments should avoid handling or working with moldy grain.

The Grain Quality Task Force at Purdue University has an excellent article reviewing grain handling and safety procedures for farm operators. Please contact Bill Field at field@purdue.edu for a copy of this article or download a PDF version here.

**Related References**


Wise, Kiersten, Charles Woloshuk, and R.L. (Bob) Nielsen. 2010. Choose Wisely……Avoid unprofitable strategies to manage moldy grain. Corny News Network, Purdue University. Online at http://www.kingcorn.org/news/articles.10/MoldyGrain-0208.html. [URL accessed Feb 2010].

Woloshuk, Charles and Kiersten Wise. 2009. Diseases of Corn: Diplodia Ear Rot. Purdue Extension publication BP-77-W. Online at http://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-75-W.pdf. [URL accessed Feb 2010]

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